

Women's retraining prospects worsen

by Charlotte Barry

The proportion of women in the Training Opportunities Programme, the Government's adult retraining scheme, will fall from 40 to 28 per cent in next year as a direct result of proposals to cut commercial and clerical courses by half.

This is revealed in a confidential review of TOPS objectives for 1981-82 by the training opportunities division of the Manpower Services Commission which is currently being considered by the MSC.

Government-imposed cuts in staff and resources of the MSC mean that the number of people completing training in 1982-83 will drop to 60,000 from 74,500. Commercial and clerical training numbers will drop from 23,000 to 14,000.

Women, who fill 90 per cent of the places on the commercial and clerical courses, will also be badly affected by cuts in training for the semi-skilled and the decision to shelve proposals to introduce courses in health, welfare and other service occupations. However, the MSC plans to run publicity campaigns to encourage more women to enter non-traditional, male-dominated areas.

The training services division's review also reveals plans to reduce management classes from 3,000 completions in 1979-80 to about 1,100 in 1982-83 and shift the balance from long academic courses to shorter, more specialized ones.

An expected steep decline in employment opportunities in the engineering industry and a serious

underemployment of TOPS classes in mechanical engineering, which occupy 38 per cent of skill centres' effort, is met with support for the closure of poor performing classes and their replacement with courses in electrical or electronic fields.

The review reports a planned increase in computer and computer-related training from 3,200 in 1979-80 to about 4,000 in 1980-81. It also says that the provision of places on preparatory courses will be maintained in 1981-82 at "broadly" the 1980-81 level of 1,500, although the training services division is seeking some reduction in average course length.

The provision of wider opportunities courses will be reduced at the 1980-81 level of more than 1,000

places, and wider opportunities for women courses will double the total number of places in just over 100 in 1980-81.

A measure likely to prove unpopular with the further education colleges where a substantial amount of TOPS work takes place is the review's plans to increase efforts to secure "value for money" from the training provided for it by others. This would involve the training services division in determining course lengths, tightening up on selection criteria for entrants and seeking to negotiate competitive fees. It has been estimated that further education and privately owned secretarial colleges could lose up to £7m next year as a result of the cuts in commercial and clerical training.

State sector tips Oxford balance

by Paul Flather

More students from state schools will go up to Oxford this year, an equal number of state and non-state students expected at Cambridge.

The figures for Oxford are 19 per cent of the total for the state sector, and 13.60 per cent for the non-state sector. At Cambridge, the figures are 14.64 (19.5 per cent) from the state sector and 14.64 (19.5 per cent) from non-state schools.

Both universities cite a number of reasons for the gradual increase in students from state schools. The greater efforts of colleges and admissions to make direct contact with the state sector, and the fact that the state sector is growing faster than the non-state sector.

A key factor is the intake of women students. The majority of Oxford's state sector students are women, while at Cambridge the women students have increased from 11.7 per cent in 1968-69 to 15.7 per cent in 1978-79. There is also a growing number of state school students who are drawn wider than state schools have been traditionally.

Another major factor is the increased use of the "open offer" which entrance is achieved through a college's own selection process. At Oxford, 10 per cent of the state sector students are now admitted through this route.

The figures come in contrast to a statement last year by the National Union of Students, which said that the state sector was "losing ground" to the non-state sector.

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Sir Keith puts Finniston in danger

by Robin McKie
Science Correspondent

The Government is preparing to delay its decision on implementing the Finniston report and there are now growing fears that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, may oppose the establishment of a statutory engineering authority, the report's principal recommendation.

These developments follow recent background moves by the Engineering Fellowship, a recently-formed learned body of engineers, whose officers have had private meetings with Sir Keith. They have proposed running a British Council of Engineering, a purely advisory body with no real power to control the engineering profession.

Their plan has found favour with Sir Keith, although it directly opposes the report of Sir Mervyn Finniston's committee of inquiry

which called for a powerful, statutory engineering authority to control registration of engineers, accredit university courses and set general standards in a bid to improve UK manufacturing industry.

At its January meeting, Sir Keith promised the Government would act with "speed and alacrity" over the Finniston report with a decision on the main recommendations being made by summer.

The summer recess of Parliament is due in early August and Sir Keith has still not decided on how he will implement the report. Government officials now expect he will announce a delay in his decision in view of recently-received proposals — the Engineering Fellowship plan — which has been put together by the officers of the Fellowship and has not yet been circulated to the general membership, calls for a 22-man British Council of Engineering to be set up. The council members would be selected from the fellowship, universities, Government, industry and craftsmen of the council's own

five industrial sub-groups. It would have no statutory powers and would merely act as a talking shop. The Council of Engineering Institutions, which presently controls registration of engineers, would continue to do so despite general discontent with its work.

The fellowship's plan has the advantage of providing it with a Royal Charter in run the British Council of Engineering and would also allow Sir Keith to be seen to be taking some action without establishing a body that some Tories may consider to be merely another quango.

A proposal to set up the suggested council is seen to be a move to limit the influence of the general popularity of the Finniston plan. Many will see the fellowship proposal as a simple wrecking job, put forward in secret and in contradiction to its public support of Finniston. The reason that it is seen as a little disruption to the system is possible and will leave the control of power where it exists at present.

Jodrell Bank 'inferior' says report

by Robin McKie
Science Correspondent

Jodrell Bank, the world's first major centre for radio astronomy, is now only producing second-class research, a science policy report has alleged.

The paper, prepared by Ben Martin and John Hyman of Sussex University's science policy research unit, states that the research work at Jodrell Bank is "inferior" to that of other major radio astronomy centres in Cambridge, and also to others in Holland and Germany.

A new technique for comparing the quality of stellar research programmes, called "the method of converging parallel indicators", was developed by Mr Martin and Mr Hyman, for their investigation of "high science" projects.

This technique takes account of numbers of publications, prizes, awards, produced by researchers at a centre; citation rates for each paper; numbers of highly cited papers; and peer-reviewings of papers.

The two researchers, who argue that recent past performance is one of the best guides to a centre's future research performance, state there was "considerable convergence" between results obtained through these four different approaches.

Cambridge not only has a higher productivity than Jodrell Bank, but also, its papers seem to have an average, a higher impact", Mr Martin and Mr Hyman state in their report, which was presented at a science policy conference in York, May 1980.

Moreover, in terms of highly cited papers, the contrast is even more marked. Cambridge produced 12 of the top 1 per cent of most cited papers and Jodrell Bank only one.

The Cambridge centre, which costs £200,000 a year, has a reputation for "extremely high quality" research, and its output is ranked among the top radio astronomy centres in the world. On the other hand, Jodrell Bank, which has a running cost of £120,000, must be relegated to second division status in these terms.



Sixth-formers take a look at machines in the engineering department at Bath University, as part of a Scheme designed to increase the number of women entering the profession. The 36 young women are the first of some 350 who will stay at state universities this summer in a programme organized by the Engineering Industry Training Board.

Teesside Polytechnic given clean bill of health

Teesside Polytechnic, the subject of a highly critical report by the CNAA, has been given a clean bill of health, it was revealed this week.

A two day interim review of the polytechnic carried out by the CNAA last December was fully satisfied with the improvements in resources at Teesside. The next review, a quinquennial, will take place in 1983.

The CNAA review found relations between the polytechnic and Cleveland local education authority had "improved almost beyond recognition". The department was "rejuvenated", staff training and development had made "good progress", and library and learning resources had been improved.

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Reprieve for Whistler collection

There is now hope that Glasgow University will not be forced to sell 11 canvases from its prized Whistler collection to help pay for its Hunterian art gallery, opened last month.

The university, left with a shortfall of £320,000, had been asked to sell the collection, valued at £112,000. Another £30,000 has also been offered from three sources: an endowment fund, the university's own funds, and the Hunterian art gallery.

Dr Michael Longfield, who became director of Teesside in 1979, said the polytechnic was an indispensable link in the field of higher education in the north east and would continue to do so.

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Teachers force arbitration

The management side of the Scottish Teachers' Union Committee, the negotiating body for school and further education staff, has agreed to force the dispute to arbitration.

The union's last month's ballot of Scotland's 100,000 teachers, which voted overwhelmingly for arbitration, was a decisive victory.

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Edinburgh sees red on blue films

by Olga Wojtas
Scottish Correspondent

Three sexually explicit films ordered from America by Edinburgh University's department of psychology are still in the hands of HM Customs; two years after they were seized as pornography.

Members of staff at Edinburgh believe that only high level intervention from the Ministry of Health will lead to the films' release. "But this is a sensitive issue. Nobody wants to have to deal with it," said a staff member.

The only concession by the customs men so far is that the films have not been destroyed or would normally have happened.

Ten similar films, specifically made for clinical and education purposes to help patients with sexual difficulties, have already been imported by Edinburgh. Customs had been warned that these would be arriving and had exempted the university from normal restrictions.

The next time the university thought there was no need to force customs, but the films were seized. "It was a mistake," said a staff member.

Dr Philip Myer, senior lecturer in obstetrics and gynaecology, said: "I would find it difficult to justify customs' decision. Presumably there is some local customs officer making God-like decisions about what is educational material and what is pornography. Some people think the Venice de Milo is pornographic."

Dr John Boncroft, senior lecturer in psychological medicine, said that the films contained explicit sexual activity but this was put forward as a constructive way of dealing with the problem.

The university may have to resort to legal action to have the films returned. Staff members have been in contact with officials of the Department of Health and Social Security, but there seems to be no prospect of the return of the films being released.

The DHSS seems satisfied that the films are educational. Dr Myer, who said: "We have been using films in Edinburgh since 1973. We spent £300 on these films and had to do without other things to buy them."

NUS opens fire in the student loans debate

by Paul Flather

The first salvo in the debate on replacing the system of student grants with a system of loans, was fired today by the National Union of Students.

The union has published a 22-page document, *The Case Against Student Loans*, which argues that any sort of loan system would be costly, inefficient, and irreparably damaging to the education system. Loans would "confer none of the advantages claimed for them", says the document, which has taken the union's welfare department six months to research.

The union puts forward five major objections. Loans would produce only limited savings; they would distort the range of subjects studied; they would be a major disincentive to study; they would restrict the ability of universities and colleges to respond to national deficiencies; and they would increase inefficiency.

The NUS is convinced the Government is seriously considering different types of loan system. Many MPs, including Sir Keith Joseph and Dr Rhodes Boyson, have indicated support for loans, officers from the Association of County Councils and the Council of Local Education Authorities have shown interest and the House of Commons Select Committee on Education took evidence on loans more than £400m is spent on maintenance grants each year.

The union wants both an informed debate and to prevent any superficial attraction to loans instead of grants at a time of economic hardship. It condemned a recent survey on public support for loans by the Institute of Economic Affairs.

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DES forecasts overseas drop

by Peter David

A big drop in the number of overseas students in polytechnics and colleges next year—with demand down by between 25 and 50 per cent—has been forecast in unpublished government estimates being used to determine local authority finances in 1981-82.

Although ministers have refused to speculate publicly about the impact of their decision to charge overseas students full cost fees from next September, the Department of Education and Science has privately drawn up detailed numerical forecasts.

They show that overseas student numbers in maintained colleges will decline by at least a quarter next year and, in the "worst case" estimate, by a half.

The estimates, which relate only to public sector institutions, show overseas student numbers in higher education falling from 18,500 in the current year to 13,800 in 1982-83. In 1980-81 numbers will drop to 16,200 and in 1981-82 to 14,700.

In further education overseas numbers will fall from 22,700 this year to 18,000 next year and 16,500 in 1982-83.

The estimates are contained in a report to a meeting next week of the Consultative Council on Local Government Finance, which is presided over by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, and negotiates the level of the annual Rate Support Grant.

But the report says there is disagreement between the DES and local government about the serious decline in the number of overseas students. Local authority negotiators believe the department's worst case estimate of a decline of 50 per cent next year with no recovery, to be a real possibility.

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Inquiry set up on poly, college constitutions

The Government made a major concession to local education authorities this week and agreed to set up a joint inquiry into the constitutions of polytechnics and colleges.

Dr Rhodes Boyson, the higher education under-secretary, told a delegation from the Council of Local Education Authorities that a joint committee of Education Department and local government officers would review college constitutions to see whether there was a case for

enhancing the powers of maintaining local authorities.

But he made it clear that the DES would not agree to the council's demand that the Secretary of State should discard his right to monitor and approve the instruments of government which lay down the powers of academic boards, governing bodies and local education authorities.

This week's meeting marked the culmination of a long campaign by local authority leaders to regain some of the management powers that have been ceded to polytechnic governing bodies by instruments of government approved by the DES.

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Telephone: Winkfield 823971

The United Nations has held its second world women's conference. Charlotte Barry reports

Action plan to stamp out male privilege

In the past few years women's right to an education has become generally accepted throughout the world. It has also become apparent that both formal and informal education and training are the factors determining the level of involvement of women in developing countries.

Their involvement will have a marked effect on social progress and on reducing the gap between developed and developing countries. It is the lack of basic skills and training that is among the basic causes of the vicious circle of underdevelopment, low productivity and poor standards of health and welfare.

But for countless millions of women in the developing countries, the means of choice which is gradually taking place in Europe and North America has scarcely begun.

This sad state of affairs has been discussed over the past two weeks at the world conference of the United Nations "Development of Women" in Copenhagen. Delegates have drawn up a revised programme of action based on a review of the first world plan of action drawn up at the first women's conference held in Mexico in 1975, to mark International Women's Year.

Then, 14 minimum objectives and nine specific areas for action to upgrade the status of women were decided. Five years later, the world is still a long way from progress has been made in some countries towards a better life for women, estimation and deterioration describe their condition in national life elsewhere.

The background report on education, for example, states that the world is still a long way from progress. Based on the replies of 86 governments to a United Nations questionnaire and reports of UNESCO activities, it includes analysis of the progress made in the field of education and training between 1975 and 1978.

Although recognising the tremendous economic, social, cultural, religious and geographical gaps that exist between women in the world, it suggests changes that can be made on a national and international scale to improve the situation.

Richard Hoggart, warden of Goldsmiths' College and vice-chairman of the Arts Council, launched the discussion with an appeal for a continuing debate about what critical standards might be.

There was a lot of criticism of the Arts Council, which he said was "a body of men, not of women". He said that the Arts Council was "a body of men, not of women".

parties and inequalities that exist in their education. Education's role in realizing the goals of the decade for women is self-evident, says the report. "The present gap in women's access to this powerful process perpetuates feelings of inequality both among women themselves and in their relation to society. Investment in women's education is considered essential if their creative participation in development is to be an effective force for change."

Today, still nearly two out of every three illiterate adults in the world are women, and in some countries female illiteracy rates are actually on the increase, reaching 85 and 86 per cent in Africa and the Arab states, compared with an average of 60 per cent for all developing countries.

Illiteracy is markedly higher in rural areas, where literacy rates are actually on the increase, reaching 85 and 86 per cent in Africa and the Arab states, compared with an average of 60 per cent for all developing countries.

Data in the report reveals that in spite of their increased enrolment in formal education between 1975 and 1978, women are still in the minority in most parts of the world at the primary, secondary and higher levels. In some countries, the proportion of women entering secondary education has declined.

In 1978 women represented nearly half the students in primary education in developed countries but in Africa female enrolments ranged from Botswana (66 per cent) to Sierra Leone (39 per cent). In Asia, Sri Lanka (87 per cent) and Pakistan (79 per cent) led the way.

At the secondary level, most developed countries and more than 20 per cent of the African ones reported an increase in women's enrolment, but Asia, Latin America and the Middle East reported a decline. Enrolments in Africa ranged from Botswana (66 per cent) to Lesotho (39 per cent).

At the tertiary level, female enrolment was highest in the United States (38 per cent) and Spain (38 per cent), followed by the Soviet Union (34 per cent) and Sweden (33 per cent). In developing countries, the United Republic of the Congo (15 per cent) and Mauritania (16 per cent) led the way.

Efforts to increase co-education and provide access to the same curriculum vary over the time period. Surprisingly, co-education is more widespread in primary and secondary levels and in developed countries.

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David Jobbins assesses the tasks facing the national joint council on conditions of service

New body is put to the test

Union leaders and management met again next week to discuss the status of a national agreement on redundancy procedures for college and university lecturers.

The risks not only have profound implications for many of the 300-plus lecturers in the public sector redundancy but for the credibility of the new national joint council on conditions of service as a first step towards replacement of the Burnham machinery by bilateral collective bargaining.

Both sides have the agreed aim of replacing the Burnham machinery by bilateral collective bargaining. But it is widely acknowledged that a change of attitude by the employers is highly unlikely.

A parallel issue which is still a major resolution despite efforts within the NJC is the question of the May Day bank holiday. After three years lecturers still have to make up the time lost by working on a public holiday.

But the first few months of its existence have shown signs of doubt as to whether the joint council can eventually assume this role. An unfortunate question mark now hangs over the future, with union leaders publicly expressing doubts about its ability to deliver the goods.

After an historic inaugural meeting earlier this year, its first work began in earnest in January when only three of the 12 university representatives turned up and it was clear that no firm decisions could be made.

Management, officials, lecturers and the public have been told that the new council will be treated with contempt, but it was hard to conceal that a major principle of the union was to ensure that the council was not seen as a body that would be treated with contempt.

What is important is the extent of non-formal education and remedial work which includes health and the environment. It is a more serious political life.

Since the first plans were laid, the economic climate has become increasingly chilly and what then seemed distant dangers are now being faced.

sent on the NJC would not accept the offer of the management being made binding, the management side had little alternative but to resist. For more than a year a joint working party had been preparing the ground for ratification of a codified document embodying agreements reached over the years between CLEA and Nuffield.

After a year of effort, the redundancy procedures agreement is regarded by the management side as an agreed set of recommendations.

As such it is neither nationally nor locally binding and individual authorities are free to choose whether they should apply it or not.

Neither rejects this contention—and this will be the main issue at next week's meeting. But it is widely acknowledged that a change of attitude by the employers is highly unlikely.

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After an historic inaugural meeting earlier this year, its first work began in earnest in January when only three of the 12 university representatives turned up and it was clear that no firm decisions could be made.

Management, officials, lecturers and the public have been told that the new council will be treated with contempt, but it was hard to conceal that a major principle of the union was to ensure that the council was not seen as a body that would be treated with contempt.

What is important is the extent of non-formal education and remedial work which includes health and the environment. It is a more serious political life.

The anti-security approach

Tim Gopsill reports on the relaxed atmosphere at Kingsway Princeton College, London



Test the security system at Kingsway Princeton Education College, yourself. Stroll in the glass-paned entrance of the new campus in Gray's Inn Road, near King's Cross, central London, turn right, and walk the length of the corridor to the office marked Student Adviser. No one will stop you. There will be groups of youngsters standing around, chatting. A generally relaxed atmosphere.

The adviser, Max Johnson, and his assistants, community youth workers Loxley English and Marie-Anne King, are more than ready to help. We don't have the resource, or the space to do all we would like to for them.

The college is, he explains, "full to the gills" with 700-odd full-time students, including day-release and evening students. No records along race lines are kept. The black/white divide would be about 50/50. The number of "intruders" varies, but it need only take a handful, of course, to cause trouble.

There is an argument for free-run, drop-in, drop-out courses for youths of this kind with world of work talks, employment opportunities, social skills, literacy and numeracy. But I do not have a accommodation, and they would be difficult and demanding to run.

In practice, the commonest solution is referral, whether to agencies, or to the nearby Afro-Caribbean drop-in centre, with which the college is developing a relationship.

Mr Crighton is completing his first year of Kingsway. He inherited the college from his predecessor, Fred Flower, and in his second year it has run with a success that has led to its expansion. Mr Crighton, who was a police officer, has been called to the college. That has got to be an achievement, especially in central London.

Mr Crighton is completing his first year of Kingsway. He inherited the college from his predecessor, Fred Flower, and in his second year it has run with a success that has led to its expansion.

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there is no other—are often friends or relatives, or associate together. Mr Crighton says: "We started from the premise that the intruders are people living in the locality who are not involved, but they are not alien. They are people we would like to help. We don't have the resource, or the space to do all we would like to for them."

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had a lucky year" is the commonest attitude: "fingers crossed we keep it up." But when anyone can see the relatively relaxed atmosphere, which must mean less trouble.

Mr Crighton knows the difference better than anyone. He came from a department headship at Brunel College, where "intruders" by local youth, and disruption from some of the students, is intense. There have been lullabies in classrooms by non-students, regular thefts and fights, so that Mr Crighton admits a strict security onlooker there is necessary. "We won't say our system would work anywhere else at all. Every college must decide for itself. We're just saying it seems to work here."

A further reason for optimism is the lack of statistics to substantiate any great claim. So informal has the system been that there is no detailed record, neither of the number of youngsters counselled, nor of follow-up. This state of affairs is next year due for improvement. The present community youth workers—all volunteers, though experienced in conditions at the college—also being replaced by professionals. Recruitment is under way, with advertisements seeking experienced youth workers.

And with the scheme on a slightly more formal footing, with detailed records, staff say that in a year's time they'll have a better story to speak from. The year's team, who were recruited internally, former students or part-time teachers, are moving on.

They're handing over a scheme that everyone admits is still experimental, but holds out a little hope in an increasingly security-conscious world. Like their staff, they may be known, semi-disparagingly, by the more radical students, as "soft cops". But one end at Kingsway Princeton wants the hard kind.

after them periodic reviews to urban centres for professional upgrading. New graduates of Brazil's communications courses are a particular double jeopardy: they can not find jobs and their fees in being ridiculed by the press. In Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo where the most important mass media have their headquarters, magazines are closing down, newspapers, radio and television are reducing staffs.

The crisis is further exacerbated by the communications graduates' questionable training. Ever since their crossing to Brazil, they have been criticised as suffering from inadequate curricula, inexperienced professors and serving a trendy clientele. The Ministry of Education and Culture, known as MEC, has ordered its concern with the situation. Unemployment here is skewed because it is critical only in the large cities where there is an appalling shortage of doctors in the interior.

In the state of Sao Paulo alone there are 220 municipalities without a doctor, whereas in Copacabana there is one doctor per 300 inhabitants, said Dr. Alvaro Gerardo, President of the MEC. The MEC's concern is to regulate the offer of higher education according to the fluctuating

Life among the artists

Simon Midgley looks at the state of the arts through the eyes of the experts

been asked, they rarely came late. However, during the course of the discussion, the Arts Council and the Arts Council, which he said was "a body of men, not of women".

Richard Hoggart, warden of Goldsmiths' College and vice-chairman of the Arts Council, launched the discussion with an appeal for a continuing debate about what critical standards might be.

There was a lot of criticism of the Arts Council, which he said was "a body of men, not of women". He said that the Arts Council was "a body of men, not of women".

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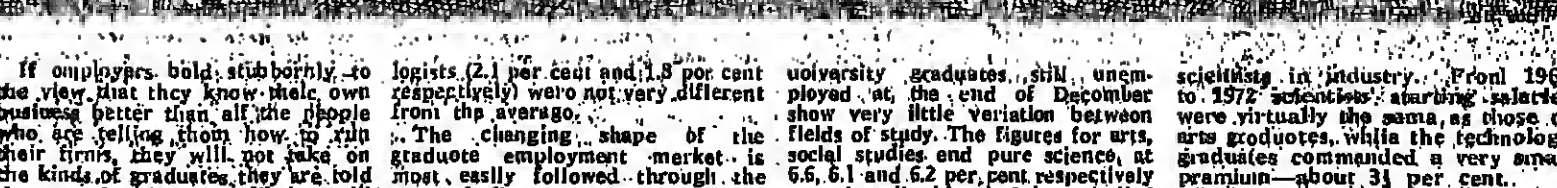
Playing the USSR numbers game

had a right to expect something more than the self-help program of some individuals. Since it is

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France has thrust aside its centralist Napoleonic heritage but academic freedom is still limited, argues André Nouschi

Liberty and autonomy under the Tricolour

A while ago the influential review *Esprit* devoted a whole issue to developments in the French universities based on a survey of academics. The inquiry nevertheless left out important questions: are French universities really independent? Are French academics independent? In short, is there academic autonomy in France?

The question is not entirely irrelevant. For, if universities have many features in common, by contrast the academics display an amazing diversity, such that bewildered outsiders are wont to raise awkward questions. Of course, it is a truism to say that there is no one species of academic.

The diversity can take many forms. Take any university whether in Paris or in the provinces. Lody does as are numerous uni, some, others, even outnumber the miles of the species. Certainly, the balance of the faculties in the humanities is thought less so in science, law, economics or medicine. If women lecturers have always shown independence of mind when it comes to stress, they have had nuptial encouragement from the Minister of Higher Education, Mme. Alice Saunier-Seïte. Yesterday, women in trousers were very much a rare event. Today they are no longer noticed. Nor have the clothing revolution remained a purely female matter. The uprising of 1968 put an end to the collar and tie image, and the gradual rise of the sweeter and jeans is now a fait accompli. But does the dress revolution mean that the university and the dons in France now possess total autonomy?

This is a stickier question and before going into its murky details, we must settle a few ambiguities which the term university, university teacher and independence entail in France. Acad, Napoleon dubbed Fontainebleau Grand Master of the University, M. Giscard d'Estaing, president of the republic, set up a ministry of higher education and for the first time in the history of this institution, placed a woman at its head.

To some these measures appear a break with the past. But does this mean higher education in general and teachers in higher education in particular, have acquired greater independence. What does this independence mean for either institution or individuals? It is quite possible that the university lecturer is as independent in political matters as any other citizen of the Republic. And in theory, this is so. Le Monde and other French newspapers often bring out long lists of academics subscribing to this political cause or that issue, or who protest against such and such a decision taken by government or administration.

Teachers, then, have complete freedom to express their point of view and opinions and to deal with issues which interest them to the point where they have been assumed that French university teachers acting as such, or on official journals, abroad—even if on voluntary service overseas—should remain free from committal upon or particular views or decisions taken by the French Government. Failure to observe this structure can often earn them the unpleasant attention of the administration. Further, where their teaching should be free, any propaganda and maintenance of a certain detachment in keeping with the traditions of objectivity and detachment thought to underpin academia.

As an individual citizen, and as a member of the university, the teacher is completely free to criticize any aspect of government policy. Nor is he or she obliged to pull any punches. Political activism among university teachers is relatively low at least in the official political parties. During election time, some teachers do throw themselves with great ostentation into the fray—the communists in thick red ties and shaggy hair, the right, in lawyer's very often reluctant to show their colours.

How many university dons are politically active? As a proportion of the total body in higher education, not many—between 5 and 10 per cent and all likelihood rather nearer 5 than 10 per cent. On the other hand, membership of unions is very high. The left can choose between the Syndicat Général de l'Enseignement Supérieur, the non-communist Confédération Française du Travail, the Communist Union, the Syndicat National de l'Enseignement Supérieur linked up with the national umbrella organization, the Fédération de l'Enseignement Supérieur, which groups all sectors of the education system, from primary to higher education. It is not dissimilar to the NUT joining with the AUT in Britain. Those who are not "left" usually enroll in the "free trade unions" (syndicats).

Neither side has very much to do with the other, although there has been a considerable increase in the number of strikes since September 20, 1978, modifying the conditions of service and the recruitment of junior lecturers, saw both left and right marching as one. Whether teachers' unions can effectively influence government policy is difficult to say. Teachers' unions in France often do not appear to have the inertia. Strikes do not seriously disrupt the economy and, most worrying of all, the man in the street is not always clear about the usefulness of academics.

Article 26 makes further play with the concept of freedom and objectivity. Teaching and research imply objectivity of knowledge and the tolerance of opinions. It states, and, significantly, continues, "Both of these are incompatible with any form of indoctrination and should remain uninfluenced by any economic or political allegiance."

In truth the freedom and autonomy of teachers are limited by financial constraints. No French university can carry out its teaching and research without relying heavily on a considerable part of the teaching dispersed to students. Certain degrees and seminars for the coveted aggregation linked to research can only be maintained by this system which is inevitably paid. If the ministry for one reason or another refuses to grant supplementary hours to a university, whole courses may vanish. And equally, a highly specialized research, if it is to continue, its research is part of a group project. In such instances any autonomy is lost. Only the research group will survive, provided of course, the university recognizes the value and interest of its research project. Failing that, it is bound to shut down and to its own devices. Admittedly, the researcher can always seek contract or private funds, but this is a rare occurrence in France.

Usually, the university is theologically true to appoint its teachers. The university senate presents a list of candidates by order of merit to the minister who, usually confirms the university's suggestion. This has occasionally not prevented individual teachers from leaving to join a more prestigious institution. So what remains of autonomy? It is more a principle which reality has washed clean of any substance. The notion of autonomy rests upon a series of regulations. Those who are bound by these regulations, however, in their interests, or more likely in keeping with the current situation, be it political or economic. The interpretation arrived at by the administrator is of course always that of the administrator. It is his or her responsibility to ensure that the university is run in the best interests of the state and the nation. And while the university can always call on donations from outside, it is not dissimilar to the situation of the academics themselves. Even then, this additional source in no way replaces state funds.

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minister of education, by the chancellor or the other representatives of the minister. Such actions if taken are applied without appeal. As for expenditure nothing may be spent without the approval of the accountant who, in theory, holds up expenditure until the regulations laid down. Research budgets again, in theory, come under the overall financial allocation to universities, but over the years, the economic situation, coupled with the political state of the country, have gradually whittled this away. On the strictly educational side, the 1968 law states that universities lay down their teaching commitments, research programmes and their teaching methods as well as the various patterns which nowdays constitute the examination system. Here, autonomy is complete. The only structure comes with nationally validated diplomas and degrees—such as the licence (bachelor's) maîtrise (MA/MSc) or the doctorate—regulated by the central ministry.

Teachers have the right to organize their courses as they wish and their research as well. Under article 25 of the law of 1968 "teachers and researchers have complete freedom of expression in their role as functionaries and in research provided that they uphold university traditions of objectivity and tolerance and uphold the stipulations of the aforementioned law."

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Taking a little peep behind closed doors

Philip Radcliffe reflects on the popular press's interest in university research

So this feature writer from the Sunday Mirror rang to ask if I had any "unusual" research projects going on. "You know, unusual," he said knowingly. Nudge, wink, wink. Now, the loving worked on that side of the fence myself, I must admit that I do get suspicious when I get a call like that. Helpful, of course, but suspicious.

Ha goes on: "I've just been looking through that standby list of research projects you sent me—very useful that—and I'm interested in a couple of them in particular." "Wait for it," I thought, but I say with guarded enthusiasm: "Oh, good. Which ones then?" "As if I didn't know."

"Well, I was rather taken by the one about millipedes. . . . (Surely not that old 'sex life of the millipede' chestnut, I thought.) . . . and I like the sound of the psychology prof's research into absent-mindedness."

I could see it now—your actual absent-minded professor, since all professors are absent-minded, isn't it? Researching into other people's absent-mindedness. What a hope! Especially since the professor in question is called Reason—there must be a Reason. Got it? Ho-ho-ho.

Now, please don't get me wrong. I am very grateful to the Mirror, and, indeed, to any other paper that takes notice of what we do. After all, I have spent a lot of the past 30 years of my life trying to get them to notice. I select and edit what I think is relevant to contemporary life. I also understand, which is a friend from the Mirror, how much he might wish to know. I do not want to think that I am a Guardian-type piece. I do not want to think that I am a Guardian-type piece. I do not want to think that I am a Guardian-type piece.

Persuading researchers to do not always easy. The AUT has been slow to come round a way of thinking, but it has a round and, relatively recently, done something to persuade members, through the aid of petitions, of the value of their efforts on the national level. Their efforts on the national level. Their efforts on the national level. Their efforts on the national level.

At a national level, however, does seem to be a serious appreciation of the value of individual universities where the media are concerned. The media are concerned. The media are concerned. The media are concerned.

Now, perhaps I ought to point out that I provide my colleagues in the media with a steady stream of popular selection—the top 70, say—of ongoing research projects at the university of Manchester, so that they can dip into it at any time in slow rainy days for feature material. Like the good from the Mirror was doing. Good idea: The last evening I saw from the Mirror was doing. Good idea: The last evening I saw from the Mirror was doing. Good idea: The last evening I saw from the Mirror was doing.

with joy when I told him about the seriousness of studying the location of the millipedes and the location of the little burrowing crickets. Yes, he appreciated that, was all serious stuff, but, of course, he had to make it sound like a joke. "You know, what the readers are like," he said. "Yes," I thought, "They're rather 'serious' writers on the 'sex' and indeed, on other papers, in an apologetic for their readers and even more so for their editors—so they keep low in expense accounts."

Well, to cut a long story as they do on the Mirror, I must say that the tone of the piece I ever got used, was up to me and invited him to talk about the absent-minded professor and millipedes man. He could have said something useful, useful, useful.

Making fun of research is an old game. I have done myself and no doubt, some deserves to have his leg. Fundamental research is the easiest of all to reduce to a laugh through incomprehension. I wonder how, if I had been in the position of the professor, he would have reacted to the Sunday 30 odd years ago, I would have explained that Tom Kilburn was the first to use a computer. He was the first to use a computer. He was the first to use a computer.

"I could see it now—your actual absent-minded professor, since all professors are absent-minded, isn't it? Researching into other people's absent-mindedness. What a hope! Especially since the professor in question is called Reason—there must be a Reason. Got it? Ho-ho-ho."

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NOTICE BOARD

Liverpool

The following have been awarded honorary degrees:
LLD: The Very Revd Edward Henry Foley, Dean of Liverpool Cathedral.
The Hon Sir Bernard Cauffman, appointed to the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice.
MA: Mr Thomas Corrig Roberts,

Forthcoming events

The Third International Congress of Accounting Universities is to be held at the London Business School from August 18-20. Some 50 papers will cover a wide range of topics in the

Grants

Queen's Belfast
Immunobiology/Microbiology—£81,888 from the Multiple Sclerosis Society for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for research on the relationship between the immune system and the disease. The grant will be used to fund a number of research projects under the direction of Professor K. B. Brown.

Pathology—£10,000 from the Multiple Sclerosis Society for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for research on the relationship between the immune system and the disease. The grant will be used to fund a number of research projects under the direction of Professor K. B. Brown.

Leeds
School of Environmental Studies—£20,000 from the SERC for a study of the urban environment, its deterioration and its effects. The grant will be used to fund a number of research projects under the direction of Professor L. V. Allen.

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chairman of the North West Cancer Research Fund. Mr Kenneth Stern, deputy chairman of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Society.
DSc: Mr Montague Matthews Pennell, managing director of British Petroleum. Dr Charles Walter Suckling, general manager of research and technology of ICI Ltd.
LLD: Mr Norman Cornthwaite Nicholson, poet and literary critic. The Rt Hon Kenneth Robinson, chairman of the Arts Council.

rapidly expanding field of accounting history ranging in time from antiquity to contemporary issues. Speakers will include Professor R. S. Vane, from the University of London, and Dr Anthony Stone from the University of Nottingham.

Dunelm
Biological Sciences—Dr G. A. Codd—£25,023 from the NERC for research into the relationship between the environment and the distribution of plant communities. The grant will be used to fund a number of research projects under the direction of Professor G. A. Codd.

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Chairs

Professor Rosalyn Higgins, professor of international law at the University of Kent, has been appointed to the chair of international law at the University of London. She will take up her post at University College London, with effect from October 1, 1981.

The title of professor of embryology and anatomy at the University of Kent, has been conferred on Dr Modelling Ruth Bellairs, in respect of her post at University College London, with effect from October 1, 1980.

The title of professor of international history has been conferred on Mr F. I. Nils, in respect of his post at the London School of Economics and Political Science, with effect from October 1, 1980.

UMIST has appointed Mr Frank Horley as visiting professor in polymer science and technology. Mr Horley is at present senior research associate in the Organics Division based at Blackley, Manchester. Dr Barbara is environmental scientist with Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation in Bristol.

Dr D. C. M. Yorley, head of the department of law, politics and economics, Oxford Polytechnic, has been appointed to the chair of law and to the chairmanship of the School of Law at the University of Birmingham. He will take up his position in September, 1980.

Professor Geoffrey M. Heal, professor of economics at the University of Essex, has been appointed to a chair in the department of economics at the University of Essex from October 1, 1980.

Monday July 28
8.40 National Income and Economic Indicators: Pre-1970; Post-1970; 1970-1979; 1980-1989; 1990-1999; 2000-2009; 2010-2019; 2020-2029; 2030-2039; 2040-2049; 2050-2059; 2060-2069; 2070-2079; 2080-2089; 2090-2099; 2100-2109; 2110-2119; 2120-2129; 2130-2139; 2140-2149; 2150-2159; 2160-2169; 2170-2179; 2180-2189; 2190-2199; 2200-2209; 2210-2219; 2220-2229; 2230-2239; 2240-2249; 2250-2259; 2260-2269; 2270-2279; 2280-2289; 2290-2299; 2300-2309; 2310-2319; 2320-2329; 2330-2339; 2340-2349; 2350-2359; 2360-2369; 2370-2379; 2380-2389; 2390-2399; 2400-2409; 2410-2419; 2420-2429; 2430-2439; 2440-2449; 2450-2459; 2460-2469; 2470-2479; 2480-2489; 2490-2499; 2500-2509; 2510-2519; 2520-2529; 2530-2539; 2540-2549; 2550-2559; 2560-2569; 2570-2579; 2580-2589; 2590-2599; 2600-2609; 2610-2619; 2620-2629; 2630-2639; 2640-2649; 2650-2659; 2660-2669; 2670-2679; 2680-2689; 2690-2699; 2700-2709; 2710-2719; 2720-2729; 2730-2739; 2740-2749; 2750-2759; 2760-2769; 2770-2779; 2780-2789; 2790-2799; 2800-2809; 2810-2819; 2820-2829; 2830-2839; 2840-2849; 2850-2859; 2860-2869; 2870-2879; 2880-2889; 2890-2899; 2900-2909; 2910-2919; 2920-2929; 2930-2939; 2940-2949; 2950-2959; 2960-2969; 2970-2979; 2980-2989; 2990-2999; 3000-3009; 3010-3019; 3020-3029; 3030-3039; 3040-3049; 3050-3059; 3060-3069; 3070-3079; 3080-3089; 3090-3099; 3100-3109; 3110-3119; 3120-3129; 3130-3139; 3140-3149; 3150-3159; 3160-3169; 3170-3179; 3180-3189; 3190-3199; 3200-3209; 3210-3219; 3220-3229; 3230-3239; 3240-3249; 3250-3259; 3260-3269; 3270-3279; 3280-3289; 3290-3299; 3300-3309; 3310-3319; 3320-3329; 3330-3339; 3340-3349; 3350-3359; 3360-3369; 3370-3379; 3380-3389; 3390-3399; 3400-3409; 3410-3419; 3420-3429; 3430-3439; 3440-3449; 3450-3459; 3460-3469; 3470-3479; 3480-3489; 3490-3499; 3500-3509; 3510-3519; 3520-3529; 3530-3539; 3540-3549; 3550-3559; 3560-3569; 3570-3579; 3580-3589; 3590-3599; 3600-3609; 3610-3619; 3620-3629; 3630-3639; 3640-3649; 3650-3659; 3660-3669; 3670-3679; 3680-3689; 3690-3699; 3700-3709; 3710-3719; 3720-3729; 3730-3739; 3740-3749; 3750-3759; 3760-3769; 3770-3779; 3780-3789; 3790-3799; 3800-3809; 3810-3819; 3820-3829; 3830-3839; 3840-3849; 3850-3859; 3860-3869; 3870-3879; 3880-3889; 3890-3899; 3900-3909; 3910-3919; 3920-3929; 3930-3939; 3940-3949; 3950-3959; 3960-3969; 3970-3979; 3980-3989; 3990-3999; 4000-4009; 4010-4019; 4020-4029; 4030-4039; 4040-4049; 4050-4059; 4060-4069; 4070-4079; 4080-4089; 4090-4099; 4100-4109; 4110-4119; 4120-4129; 4130-4139; 4140-4149; 4150-4159; 4160-4169; 4170-4179; 4180-4189; 4190-4199; 4200-4209; 4210-4219; 4220-4229; 4230-4239; 4240-4249; 4250-4259; 4260-4269; 4270-4279; 4280-4289; 4290-4299; 4300-4309; 4310-4319; 4320-4329; 4330-4339; 4340-4349; 4350-4359; 4360-4369; 4370-4379; 4380-4389; 4390-4399; 4400-4409; 4410-4419; 4420-4429; 4430-4439; 4440-4449; 4450-4459; 4460-4469; 4470-4479; 4480-4489; 4490-4499; 4500-4509; 4510-4519; 4520-4529; 4530-4539; 4540-4549; 4550-4559; 4560-4569; 4570-4579; 4580-4589; 4590-4599; 4600-4609; 4610-4619; 4620-4629; 4630-4639; 4640-4649; 4650-4659; 4660-4669; 4670-4679; 4680-4689; 4690-4699; 4700-4709; 4710-4719; 4720-4729; 4730-4739; 4740-4749; 4750-4759; 4760-4769; 4770-4779; 4780-4789; 4790-4799; 4800-4809; 4810-4819; 4820-4829; 4830-4839; 4840-4849; 4850-4859; 4860-4869; 4870-4879; 4880-4889; 4890-4899; 4900-4909; 4910-4919; 4920-4929; 4930-4939; 4940-4949; 4950-4959; 4960-4969; 4970-4979; 4980-4989; 4990-4999; 5000-5009; 5010-5019; 5020-5029; 5030-5039; 5040-5049; 5050-5059; 5060-5069; 5070-5079; 5080-5089; 5090-5099; 5100-5109; 5110-5119; 5120-5129; 5130-5139; 5140-5149; 5150-5159; 5160-5169; 5170-5179; 5180-5189; 5190-5199; 5200-5209; 5210-5219; 5220-5229; 5230-5239; 5240-5249; 5250-5259; 5260-5269; 5270-5279; 5280-5289; 5290-5299; 5300-5309; 5310-5319; 5320-5329; 5330-5339; 5340-5349; 5350-5359; 5360-5369; 5370-5379; 5380-5389; 5390-5399; 5400-5409; 5410-5419; 5420-5429; 5430-5439; 5440-5449; 5450-5459; 5460-5469; 5470-5479; 5480-5489; 5490-5499; 5500-5509; 5510-5519; 5520-5529; 5530-5539; 5540-5549; 5550-5559; 5560-5569; 5570-5579; 5580-5589; 5590-5599; 5600-5609; 5610-5619; 5620-5629; 5630-5639; 5640-5649; 5650-5659; 5660-5669; 5670-5679; 5680-5689; 5690-5699; 5700-5709; 5710-5719; 5720-5729; 5730-5739; 5740-5749; 5750-5759; 5760-5769; 5770-5779; 5780-5789; 5790-5799; 5800-5809; 5810-5819; 5820-5829; 5830-5839; 5840-5849; 5850-5859;

BOOKS

Standard time

Greenwich Time and the Discovery of the Longitude
by Derek Howe
Oxford University Press, £7.95
ISBN 0 19 215948 8

"For called, our navies melt away" — said Kipling, at the end of the nineteenth century, on the fourth anniversary of the loss of the *Titanic*. Yet, only a decade before he wrote this, the long influence of Britain on maritime affairs had received its culminating recognition in the selection of Greenwich as the new point of longitude. Derek Howe's new book pivots round this event; yet, at the same time, it points out an ambiguity. Longitude and time, as the title tells us, are related, but distinct. If the story of longitude reached a peak in the nineteenth century, the story of time continues as a twentieth-century saga; yet recent developments have taken away some of Greenwich's primacy.

The need for accurate longitude determinations became pressing as war as navigation moved out from coastal regions. In England, the navigation by Charles II that much of the time required for finding the longitude was lacking led, in 1675, to the foundation of the Greenwich Observatory. It was recognized from the start that improvement of navigation must be a long-term endeavour. But the need to solve the longitude problem became increasingly urgent. A number of navigational disasters in the period around 1700 helped ensure the establishment in 1714 of a special fund of £20,000 (the equivalent of nearly half-a-million pounds in 1975). It was in 1714 that the person, or persons, who discovered a practical method of measuring longitude at sea.

The subsequent, ultimately successful attempt to develop both astronomical methods and accurate clocks for the use of positional measurement at sea have been the subject of much research and writing. The results are lucidly summarized in this book, but an important distinction is drawn between the two principal approaches. The French, were little, if at all, behind the English in developing accurate clocks. In perfecting the astronomical methods, however, the British *Nautical Almanac* prevailed. Any similar compilation elsewhere, in the nineteenth century, was naturally based on the *Nautical Almanac* of Greenwich; as deep-sea navigators round the world began to compute their positions relative to this.

By the early nineteenth century, the problem of determining longitude at sea, with reasonable accuracy, had been essentially solved. Almost immediately, a new problem with time came to the fore. The growth of railways led to rapid and frequent travel. Previously, the time of each town keeping to its own local time had posed no serious difficulties; now it became more and more inconvenient. From the mid-nineteenth century onwards, a standard time zone was introduced throughout much of the British

railway network. This was distributed by way of the telegraph system (from the Greenwich Observatory, and so was naturally based on the time kept at Greenwich). Yet local time was not easily displaced—Greenwich time only received legal backing as the standard in 1880. One of the fascinating photographs in this book is of the clock on Tintin Tower at Christ Church around 1860. It has three hands—one showing the hour and the other two the minutes in local and Greenwich time (a difference of about five minutes).

If variations in local time created difficulties in Britain (where the maximum difference from east to west is only about 30 minutes), the problems in North America were obviously much greater. For example, Pittsburgh had six different time standards for the arrival and departure of trains. It was therefore agreed in the 1870s that the USA should be divided up into standard time zones. It was found that the boundaries occurred most conveniently if they lay along meridians which were in integral numbers of hours west of Greenwich. So, by the time it became essential to choose an internationally agreed zero meridian—in the mid-1880s—only were most—see charts based on Greenwich—but an increasing number of longitudes and time zones on land. With very little dissent (only San Domingo voted against), Greenwich became the zero of longitude. This it remains today. In the general understanding, however, in terms of time, the position is now much more complex.

In time measurement, it was always assumed that the Earth spun regularly on its axis, so that the length of the day remained the same. During the first half of the twentieth century, as clocks became still finer in accuracy, this assumption was shown to be untrue. In consequence, the whole of time measurement has been checked. Currently, clocks were calibrated by the fact that, now, the Earth's rotation is slightly faster by clocks. Correspondingly, the old Greenwich time, based on astronomical measurements, has ceased to be the international standard. The three-centuries-old *Nautical Almanac* has been revised to reflect its gradual rise and more rapid fall.

It is possible to find minor faults with Derek Howe's account of all these changes. The importance of time in astronomy might have been mentioned at the beginning and the description of recent time measurement at the end is not as good as the book on this topic could possibly be provided for the general reader. It is a well-written, excellent, lucid and nicely made book—altogether, highly recommended.

A. J. Meadows

A. J. Meadows is Professor of Astronomy and the history of science at the University of Leicester.

The geography of fuel

A Geography of Energy in the United Kingdom
by John Pernie
Longman, £5.50
ISBN 0 582 30007 X

To adopt Harold Wilson's words—a year is a long time in energy policy. The pages of *A Geography of Energy in the United Kingdom* are peppered with particulars. Many of these particulars—numerical forecasts, administrative arrangements—have since been overtaken by events. Nevertheless, the general reader will find a wealth of useful basic information in these pages, and the aficionado will enjoy watching his wits against Pernie's tumbling torrent of examples and commentary.

Pernie lectures in Geography at Huddersfield Polytechnic, and as a geographer he demonstrates an impressive acquaintance with many aspects of the energy scene not normally considered the province of geographers. The writing is clear and uncluttered, and the text is interspersed with gaily designed tables to amplify the argument. Each chapter is accompanied by extensive references.

The introductory chapter provides a brief survey of the reasons for concern in the part of government and policy makers about energy issues in Britain. Successive chapters

consider coal, North Sea oil and gas, nuclear electricity, the so-called "renewable energy resources", and energy conservation. The book concludes with a brief summary of what the author considers to be the key aspects of present energy issues in the United Kingdom. The basic organization of the discussion is along traditional lines. What we are dealing with here is primarily the geography of fuel in the United Kingdom. Most of the book is devoted to the supply of fuels, either directly or by way of electricity. Very little reference is made to the actual use of fuels and electricity, and then only belatedly. However, within the context of this admittedly important reservation, the chapters devoted to fuels do give a useful overview of the energy resources and their economic and administrative contexts.

Each of the chapters on fuels begins by discussing the historical role of the resource and its recent development. Specific controversial areas—the Selby and Belford coalfield developments, offshore oil licensing, the Windscale Inquiry—are detailed. Unanswered questions are indicated, including those as to priorities and allocation of resources between different fuels and electricity, and the side-effects associated with their use.

The electricity industry is not considered separately, but only as

an adjunct to coal and oil and gas, nuclear electricity, the so-called "renewable energy resources". This mode of organization is understandable, but it tends not to emphasize the link between the electricity industry and the energy scene. The institutional dimensions of energy controversy does not, however, receive the attention it deserves. On page 101, Pernie refers to nuclear power as the "cornerstone" of United Kingdom energy policy. On page 127, he refers to the "conservation" of energy. This is a somewhat misleading use of the word "conservation", however, as the "cornerstone" of "official" energy policy is not "conservation" but "nuclear power". Nuclear power is the "cornerstone" of "official" energy policy, but it is not "conservation". The distinction is important, but it is not clearly made. Pernie's approach is, however, a good one. He is clearly himself, during the writing of the book, of the points which have been made. He is clearly himself, during the writing of the book, of the points which have been made. He is clearly himself, during the writing of the book, of the points which have been made.

Walter C. Patten

Walter C. Patten is Lecturer in Geography at the University of Hull.

An opportunity to remain silent

Principles of Gene Manipulation: an Introduction to Genetic Engineering
by R. W. Old and S. D. Primrose
Blackwell Scientific, £10.00 and ISBN 0 632 00625 0 and 00627 7

Genetic engineering, or "in vitro" genetic manipulation as it is properly called, has had a profound impact on the past few years. Partly this is because it provides a means of reorganizing and augmenting the genetic constitution of living organisms in ways that had previously been thought impossible, partly it is also because the subject has received quite exceptional attention from the scientific community. This book, written by two of the leading experts in the field, is a well-written, excellent, lucid and nicely made book—altogether, highly recommended.

It is possible to find minor faults with Derek Howe's account of all these changes. The importance of time in astronomy might have been mentioned at the beginning and the description of recent time measurement at the end is not as good as the book on this topic could possibly be provided for the general reader. It is a well-written, excellent, lucid and nicely made book—altogether, highly recommended.

Controversial ideas about solar influence

The Sun's Influence on Earth's Climate
by John H. Johnson
Penguin, £5.50
ISBN 0 14 033326 3

Dr Johnson's main theme in this book, which is designed for the interested layman, is that the two faces of the Sun are not as simple as they appear. He argues that the Sun's influence on Earth's climate is not only complex but also controversial. He points out that the Sun's activity is not constant, and that it can have a significant effect on Earth's climate. He also points out that the Sun's activity is not constant, and that it can have a significant effect on Earth's climate. He also points out that the Sun's activity is not constant, and that it can have a significant effect on Earth's climate.

linked with recent terrestrial ice ages. Although not all astronomers will agree with his precise conclusions, Johnson's book is a well-written, excellent, lucid and nicely made book—altogether, highly recommended.

The total gravitational force on the Earth due to all the other planets is much less than the gravitational force of the Sun. This is a well-known fact, but it is not always appreciated. Johnson points out that the gravitational force of the Sun is much greater than that of the other planets combined. This is a well-known fact, but it is not always appreciated.

The book is generally well written and easy to read, but it is not always clear what Johnson is trying to say. He often uses a lot of technical terms, and he often repeats himself. However, the book is a well-written, excellent, lucid and nicely made book—altogether, highly recommended.

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Classified Advertisements Index

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Universities
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
Australia
CENTRE FOR BEHAVIOURAL STUDIES IN EDUCATION
LECTURER
Applications are invited for the vacant position of Lecturer in one or more of the following areas: Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, measurement, statistics and research design, social psychology of the classroom, human development. The position involves postgraduate teaching and supervision of research together with a contribution to the undergraduate teaching programme. It is expected that the appointee will have a demonstrated competence in research. The position is available from September, 1980.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
PROFESSOR OF EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION
Applications are invited for appointment to a Chair of Educational Administration. The Chair will be held by a person who will be responsible for the development and delivery of the programme in Educational Administration. The appointee will be expected to contribute to the development of the programme in Educational Administration. The position is available from September, 1980.

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FACULTY OF SCIENCE
CHAIR OF GEOLOGY
The Chair will become vacant in March 1981 when the incumbent, Professor U. A. Brown, retires from the staff of the University. It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duty during 1981.

CHAIR OF ZOOLOGY
The Chair will become vacant in March 1981 when the incumbent, Professor U. A. Brown, retires from the staff of the University. It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duty during 1981.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
Sydney, Australia
VICE-CHANCELLORSHIP
Professor Rupert Myers, CBE, FRS, has indicated his wish to retire from the office of Vice-Chancellor and Principal on July 31, 1981.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES—THE BAHAMAS
Applications are invited for the post of
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN
In the Department of Management Studies, Applicants will be required to have a degree in Library Science or equivalent, and a minimum of five years' experience in library work. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and delivery of the programme in Library Science. The position is available from September, 1980.

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The Lions' share of liberty



Steven Lukes

ly, although it is rarely la-
id in such broad terms. At
the trend appears to be to
more emphasis to manpower
training, though as for much of
the encouragement is of the nudg-
ing variety.

In fact, at a time of rising
employment (which will affect
highly qualified as well as the
unskilled) the need for an exact
fit between the output of
education and the demand from
neighbouring countries and
industries. For the next few
years, for the embryo will clearly
be moving quality rather than
quantity, a task which be-
cause of muddled messages of
the past will find it much more
difficult to guide, as Fison has
recently shown. There is new

Residence?

What constitutes ordinary residence?

It is to be hoped that the DES will reconsider not only the details but also the intent of the regulations governing ordinary residence. With a clear definition on which to base guidance, it is difficult to see the need for a three-year qualification period, which automatically catches recent immigrants and refugees.

If the intention of the applicants is to live and remain in Britain dur-

The Government has indicated its willingness to do something to ease the burden of refugee students and

National deal for non-teachers

preserves their autonomy by having only the right to pay the workers low rates, and all universities long ago agreed to pay national rates for most of their employees, their teachers. The issue does not even arise in the non-university sector because a polytechnic employee, from the director to the porter, are employees of the maintaining local authority and so paid nationally agreed rates.

it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the refusal of some universities to pay optional rates for non-teaching staff is a last relic of sentimental paternalism and therefore excuse to keep their labour costs as low as possible. Neither of these really counts against the very substantial danger that their stubbornness will sour industrial relations that up to now have been comparatively sweet.

But there is a general argument to all of this. A lot is, after all, a boycott, and it is of the very nature becoming to make all these discriminations all very well

academic exercise, but in the real world they are impossible to implement. As Dr. Ridenour said, "It is simply not possible to implement a partial boycott letting its boundaries be eroded. There is a chain connection between all these forms of contact."

What we have here is the contradiction of the whole versus the part. One might call it the tension between the politics of the part requiring a comprehensive policy.

This contradiction is inherent reality and unavoidable. What is the solution? From the point of view, there is a strong political gain: an acceleration with Africa: the chain 'connect' exist and have to be included calculation of consequences individual should come

entering into such an association without fully appreciating the strength of the case against it. If it chooses to do so, it must take full responsibility for his actions. It must have clear objectives, a commitment on an unambiguous commitment to supporting the political and economic liberation of black Africans. For academics, in particular, this imposes two conditions on any visit: that they accept all that is possible to do

behind the facades, and given clear support to the struggle. Purely academic or confined to the lecture-laboratory, can have no justification.

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